MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 SEPTEMBER 1981

Autonomy Talks

MENA reported the opening of negotiations in Cairo among Egypt, Israel and the United States on Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, noting that the Egyptian delegation included Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali; that the Israeli delegation was headed by Interior Minister Yosef Burg and included Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir; and that the United States was represented by U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Alfred Atherton and U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis. According to MENA, at the morning session Hasan 'Ali presented an Egyptian call for the termination of Israeli military authority in the West Bank and Gaza, the consideration of east Jerusalem as part of the West Bank, the evaluation of autonomy as a transitional stage leading to Palestinian self-determination, an end to the building of settlements in Arab territories and the release of Palestinian political prisoners. MENA later noted that during the afternoon session the Egyptian delegation rejected the Israeli position that discussions on security were strictly a matter of Israeli-Jordanian concern. Reporting on this difference of opinion, IDF radio said the Israeli reply to the Egyptian objection was that the issue would be discussed with the Jordanians and Palestinians "when the time comes." The radio also noted the Israeli side's rejection of the Egyptian position on east Jerusalem, which Israel regards as falling outside the autonomy area. MENA reported that all parties agreed that a second round of talks should take place in Israel during the last week of October and that a third round should be held in Cairo in November.

Egypt

As-Sadat Press Council Speech--President Anwar as-Sadat, in a speech to the Higher Press Council, reported by MENA, called upon the Council to form a committee charged with reviewing everything published abroad about Egypt and expelling from the profession any Egyptian journalist who attacks the country. As-Sadat also told council members that among their responsibilities was that of fighting indiscipline and rancor threatening the nation's institutions.

Invitation to Mitterrand--According to MENA, President as-Sadat has issued an invitation to French President Francois Mitterrand to visit Egypt at a time of the latter's choosing. The invitation was handed to a special adviser to the French president who was received by As-Sadat in Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah. MENA said the adviser was bearing an "important and very cordial" message to As-Sadat from Mitterrand.

Further on As-Sadat Interview--MENA has continued its reportage on the 22 September NBC interview with President as-Sadat in which he discussed his part in the supply of arms to Muslim rebels in Afghanistan. According to a transcript supplied by MENA of part of the interview, As-Sadat said the United States paid Egypt for stocks of Soviet weapons and these weapons have been transported by U.S. planes to the Afghan rebels via channels of which he claimed ignorance. The Egyptian president asserted he will continue to supply the rebels with weapons until Soviet troops leave Afghanistan.

Israel

Action Against AWACS Deal--Citing Jerusalem "political circles," HATZOFE carried a report that Israel is to resume political activities in the United States against the U.S.-Saudi AWACS aircraft deal since Saudi Arabia has launched a large-scale campaign to promote the deal.

Lebanon

Palestinian-Lebanese-Syrian Coordination--The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that after two meetings of the Palestinian-Lebanese-Syrian Higher Committee at the Syrian Defense Ministry in Damascus, Secretary General of the Lebanese National Movement's Political Council Muhsin Ibrahim said the committee had taken a number of measures to preserve the security of the nationalist areas in light of the recent wave of sabotage operations "masterminded by the Israeli intelligence service." Ibrahim added that the conferencees, who included PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, discussed ways to consolidate and strengthen the Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian alliance.

Syrian Missiles--SANA quoted a deputy speaker of the Syrian parliament as telling a press conference in Havana that Syria will withdraw its defensive missiles from Lebanon only if Israel withdraws from all the occupied Arab territories.

Libya

JANA reported that Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who is currently visiting Hungary, told his audience at a 22 September dinner in Budapest given in his honor by MSZMP First Secretary Janos Kadar that Arabs value their friendship with the socialist bloc because, despite differences in social beliefs, they share historic and strategic goals. It is now possible, he said, to create a basis for "cooperation and alliance" among peoples of different social systems because of their common goal of fighting imperialism. According to Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland radio, Al-Qadhdhafi reiterated this view at a 23 September Budapest press conference, saying that Libya, the Soviet Union and the rest of the socialist community are linked by the common aim of combating imperialism.

Iran

Foreign Ministry Criticizes U.S.--The Foreign Ministry, in a statement broadcast by Tehran radio, accused the United States of violating the Algiers declaration. It said the Americans have blocked assets controlled by the Iranian Interests Section at the Algerian Embassy in Washington and by Iran's office at the United Nations. The statement asserted that these actions are contrary to the Algiers declaration, which provided for the return of these assets to Iran 6 months after it was signed, and that they also conflict with the "clear American undertaking guaranteeing the free movement and transfer of all Iranian assets." Noting that the U.S. action is in apparent retaliation for Iran's failure to hand over the "den of espionage," the U.S. Embassy, to the Swiss Embassy and that it is also based on the "imaginary claim" that Iran has frozen the U.S. Embassy's deposits, the statement said neither of these two issues was addressed in the Algiers declaration. Criticizing the U.S. refusal to admit into the United States certain members of the Iranian delegation to the UN General Assembly because of their involvement in the American hostages affair, the statement said Iran regrets that the UN headquarters is situated on U.S. territory.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iraqi Armed Forces communique, carried by Baghdad radio, reported further fighting in the Susangerd area while an Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio indicated that exchanges of fire continued along a number of western and southern fronts. According to a revolution guards' statement, carried by Tehran radio, guardsmen penetrated 30 km inside Iraqi territory and besieged a military base, killing 120 Iraqi soldiers.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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RESULTS OF DAMASCUS TRIPARTITE TALKS ANNOUNCED

NC231138 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] The Palestinian-Lebanonese-Syrian Higher Coordination Committee held two meetings yesterday at the Syrian Foreign Ministry. They were attended by Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

For the Palestinian side, the meeting was attended by Brothers Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ratib Ghunaym] members of the Fatah Central Comittee, and by Brother Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar and Abu Mahir [Ahmad al-Yamani], members of the PLO Central Committee.

The National Movement was represented by a delegation that included Brothers Muhsin Ibrahim, Albert Mansur, Nadim 'Abd as-Samad, Samir Sabbagh, Muhsin Dallul, Mahmud 'Abd al-Khaliq, 'Abd ar-Rahim Murad and 'Abd al-Amri 'Abbas.

On behalf of the Amal Movement, the two meetings were attended by the two deputy chairmen of the Command Council, namely, Hasan Hashim and Husayn al-Musawi, as well as by Command Council member Muhammad Ghadar.

Brother Muhsin Ibrahim, the executive secretary general of the Central Political Council, stated at the conclusion of the meetings that they afforded a very precious opportunity for discussing all the issues of interest to the committee members.

He said: The meetings were held in the presence of Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Central Committee, and Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister. At these meetings the discussions centered on the issues related to the Arab and Lebanese situations.

In the Arab domain, the conference of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front states and the resolutions which were passed at this summit within the context of organizing the overall confrontation against the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism, particularly in the wake of the serious qualitative move that has been made in the strategic-organic alliance which exists and which continues between Israel and the United States.

Concerning Lebanon, the Higher Coordination Committee discussed the latest political and security developments and the escalating military threats by the Zionist enemy that are directed against the south as well as all of Lebanon.

He added: The conferees extensively discussed the wave of criminal sabotage operations masterminded by the Israeli intelligence service which have been implemented through the tools, agents and allies of this service against the nationalist areas during the past week.

Brother Ibrahim announced that since the political objectives of these criminal actions have become clear, the committee has taken measures aimed at implementing past resolutions intended to preserve the security of nationalist areas. This action will be carried out on the basis that the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] and the internal security forces will carry out their tasks and on the understanding that the nationalist side will extend the assistance required by these legitimate security quarters in order to protect the nationalist areas against all hostile security breaches.

He said: The Higher Coordination Committee will continue its meetings in Beirut to organize and control the security situation, to end the activities of the criminal and hostile networks and to handle all the excesses that endanger the security of the nationalist areas and the interests of their people.

Ibrahim affirmed that the Higher Coordination Committee did not discuss the details of the implementation of the resolutions that were passed by the Arab followup committee. It considers that the task of implementing these resolutions is the responsibility of the representatives of the followup committee in Beirut through consultations with the Lebanese parties concerned that have the official authority to work out a feasible formula for all the measures required to be taken.

He said: In this respect, the Higher Coordination Committee has emphasized that the Lebanese patriotic forces constitute the competent quarter entitled to submit whatever they deem appropriate to the Arab followup committee and to the official authority to ensure the integrated, constant and irreversible implementation of the three resolutions connected with the stabilization of the cease-fire, the opening of the roads and paths between the two sectors of the capital, the establishment of a supervisory body for the harbors and shores and the formation of the security force affiliated with this body to ascertain the severance of the relationship with Israel.

In conclusion, Ibrahim said: The conferees also discussed the means for consolidating and strengthening the Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian Arabism and for preserving its unity, and in its capacity as a main pillar of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front vis-a-vis the schemes masterminded by the imperialist-Zionist alliance and its agents.

Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar met in Damascus yesterday evening with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The meeting was attended by Brother Col Muhammad Ghanim, chief of the ADF intelligence service, and by Brothers 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Abu Mahir and Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, members of the Executive Committee. Also present at the meeting were Brothers Abu Iyad and Abu Mahir, members of the Fatah Central Committee.

The discussions at this meeting centered on a number of topics pertaining to the Palestinian and Arab scenes and on the ways for strengthening bilateral Syrian-Palestinian relations.

The meeting was positive and exciting. It was also characterized by a spirit of constructive brotherhood, which prevails over Syrian-Palestinian relations. Agreement was also reached at this meeting on increasing bilateral meetings to confront the challenges facing our Arab nation, particularly the serious U.S.-Israeli alliance and also on the means of confrontation to be used at various levels in order to ensure the Arab nation's steadfastness.

AS-SA'IQAH LEADER DENOUNCES U.S.-ISRAELI PACT

JN231936 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] The Popular Liberation War Vanguards-As-Sa'iqah Forces graduated the eighth class of the armed Ba'thist factions belonging to the Palestinian grouping at an As-Sa'iqah camps at noon today.

The ceremony was attended by Comrade 'Isam al-Qadi, Ba'th Party National Command member and As-Sa'iqah Forces secretary general; the comrade members of the Palestinian Grouping Regional Command and members of the As-Sa'iqah Forces General Command; the comrade secretary and members of the Palestine branch; and the comrade secretaries and members of the commands of the party branches.

The ceremony began with a military parade of those participating in the course, who afterwards conducted a live-firing exercise.

Comrade 'Isam al-Qadi delivered a speech which opened by conveying the greetings of Comrade Struggler President Hafiz al-Asad to the graduates. He then spoke about Syria's honorable pan-Arab stands for supporting the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian revolution. He denounced the fierce imperialist-Zionist onslaught against Syria to exhaust Syria's steadfastness and wipe out the Palestinian revolution.

Comrade al-Qadi denounced the strategic cooperation and the agreements that U.S. imperialism had recently concluded with its ally, Israel. He described them as a new conspiracy against the Arab nation and the Palestinian cause.

Comrade al-Qadi praised the resolutions adopted by the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front at its latest meeting, resolutions that provide for full support and assistance to the Palestinian revolution and people.

The participants in the course sent a cable to the comrade secretary general of the Ba'th Party. They pledged that they would remain loyal to the principles of the leader party and to the leader of their militant march and that they were determined to wipe out all imperialist and Zionist conspiracies being concocted against the Arab nation.

AN-NIDA' ANALYZES HAIG STATEMENT ON LEBANON

JN221931 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Under the headline "General Haig and the Explosions in the Sixth Year of the Regime," the newspaper AN-NIDA' writes:

We will not say that the U.S. secretary of state's statement on the Lebanese explosions are an application of the Arab adage: He hit me and then outran me to complain. The issue is not that simple. General Haig's accusations leveled against the Palestinian resistance and the Arab steadfastness states are more than mere accusations or instigations. Those who are concerned with the Lebanese crisis fear that this aggressive and insolent U.S. interference in this particular issue is a prelude to a wider and more important offensive, namely, striking at the national existence of this country. It would not be strange if the (?statement) of the general and secretary were a prelude to the next presidential elections in Lebanon and a warning that the United States is the primary voter and decisionmaker.

The fifth year of the presidency is ending with direct support from the Reagan administration for the regime in its stalling on rebuilding the army. There is also more important and more enthusiastic U.S. support for the original Phalangist project despite its detrimental consequences for the legitimate authorities. The criminal explosions occurring here and there are an effective U.S. weapon aimed at forging more extremist projects, even if these projects lead to the prevention of any solution by the end of President Sarkis' term of office. The aim is to place the country on the horns of a great dilemma and place the decision in the hand's of the primary voter, the United States, and its local collaborators.

This project must be foiled. We should not wait until the end of the sixth year.

KUWAIT

AL-QABAS URGES SAUDIS TO DROP AWACS PURCHASE

GF240741 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 23 Sep 81 p 1

[Editorial: "The Flying Skeletons Deal"]

[Text] All that has been going on in Washington about the AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia is simply an absurd play and a dirty blackmail. We know that the U.S. Administration with all its organs--from the White House to the Pentagon to Congress with its two houses and to the 50 congressmen who signed the petition opposing the deal--is very anxious to conclude the sale. The objective of this multibranch farce in the U.S. media and the political maneuvers in Congress is to heighten the temptation for Saudi Arabia and to increase the ultimate cost. One of the simplest matters is the international practice whereby the seller gives the purchaser a guarantee warranting the merchandise for the work it was manufactured for over a certain period of time. However, as far as the AWACS deal is concerned we find that perhaps for the first time in history the seller has cut short the specifications of the merchandise and has increased the price to the purchaser. He has then turned around and has given a guarantee not to the purchaser, but to a competing customer.

What the Reagan administration has done is that it has removed from the AWACS planes to be sold to Saudi Arabia all of the sensitive instruments normally found on the planes as used by the Americans. The countermeasure devices and other pieces of equipment have been removed and the price of each plane doubled so that the overall cost will exceed a billion dollars. Moreover, it gave a "guarantee" to Israel that it would be allowed to destroy the Saudi AWACS whenever Israel feels they constitute a danger.

Yesterday the U.S. Administration invited members of Congress to Andrews Air Force Base to show them on the spot that the AWACS to be sold to Saudi Arabia had been stripped of all their most sensitive equipment so that they have become practically a collection of flying toys; mere skeletons that do not constitute any threat to Israel.

If this is the case, how can we believe that these "skeleton airplanes" can be of any use in detecting a danger from the Soviet Union? Or is a great country like the Soviet Union incapable of doing what Israel could do?

If we wanted to straighten out the backward U.S. logic the United States should present the AWACS to Saudi Arabia as a gift and should pay the Saudi Kingdom millions of dollars in exchange for Saudi Arabia's acceptance of them on its land. Frankly, this constitutes a U.S. base connected to the strategic agreement that Begin and Haig are circulating.

We call upon the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the eldest sister, to drop the AWACS deal--these planes have become mere kites and children's toys--before it is too late. A dramatic end must be put to this U.S. farce.

SAUDI ARABIA

KUWAITI PAPER REBUKED ON AWACS DEAL

LD232330 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2150 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Sep (SPA)--In reply to a press question about an article in the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABUS regarding the American AWACS aircraft deal, a source in the Saudi Armed Forces has stated that it is regrettable for some Arab papers to resort to this cheap means of intrigue, to create doubts and to relinquish their journalistic integrity in acquainting public opinion about the truth of current events. The source said that what was published by AL-QABUS is no more than a tendentious repetition of the campaigns of creating doubt, fabrications and slander pursued by the world Zionist and international communist papers against the kingdom because of its firm and declared position vis-a-vis the destiny of the Arab and Islamic nations.

In reply to the paper about stripping the AWACS aircraft of advanced equipment the official source replied that the Saudi Air Force today has Saudi experts in the technical and tactical spheres who could enable it to be in a position to choose with extreme accuracy, whether from the point of quality or the equipment, what it needs in weapons. Moreover some air force aircraft have been modified and developed according to our request to suit our needs and circumstances, and our air force has these advanced types given though the countries that produced the aircraft do not have them.

The source stressed that the air force clearly and specifically knows well what it requires and knows (?where) to obtain it, and had there been any truth in the paper, the Zionist forces would not have raised this political and propaganda campaign to stop the deal; and had the stripping of the AWACS of advanced equipment been acceptable to the kingdom the deal would have gone through long ago and without any obstacles. However, the insistance of the kingdom on obtaining this type of early warning aircraft, with its control and communications system, is what aroused the caution and the fear of the Zionist forces and all the other(?hostile) forces that see in the strength of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia a danger threatening their regional designs and plans.

The source went on to say: Thus we are not concered with the cheap propaganda campaigns to which we are being subjected. We are accustomed to such campaigns from the [word indistinct], communist and suspect information media which seek to sow the seeds of suspicion and confusion about the capabilities of the Saudi Air Force, which today has become an object of pride among Arab and Islamic Air Forces. However, it is regrettable that some Arab papers are moved by this suspicious and destructive trend which only serves the enemies of our Arab and Islamic nation.

PDRY

DEFENSE MINISTER INTERVIEWED BY PALESTINIAN MAGAZINE

EA230920 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 22 Sep 81

[Text] The following is the important interview given by Brig Salih Muslih Qasim, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of defense, to the Palestinian magazine AL-HADAF published in this week's issue. In it he spoke about a number of vital and important issues in both the Arab and international arenas and about the PDRY's stance, as well as the level attained by our armed forces.

Brig Salih Muslih Qasim, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of defense, stressed that the historic tripartite summit conference held in Aden last month and attended by Democratic Yemen, the Libyan Jamahiriyah and Socialist Ethiopia and the friendship and cooperation treaty that resulted from this meeting were fully harmonious with the prerequisites of the upsurge in our people's struggle to protect their revolutionary transformations and to resist the dangers threatening their peace and the region's stability as a result of the increased, rabid, aggressive tendencies of American imperialism and its agents.

Brother Brig Salih Muslih Qasim made clear in the interview published by the Palestinian magazine AL-HADAF in its latest issue this week, that the interlocking of events relating to imperialist moves in the Arab homeland and Africa, manifested in the deployment of military forces, mobile and stationary, in the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean, presents the vanguard forces of the Arab and African national liberation movements with the task of raising the level of their struggle in the face of the dangers arising from these aggressive moves that aim at striking the national liberation movements of these regions as a prelude to imposing imperialist military and political hegemony over their resources and [word indistinct].

He added that it is significant that the outcome of the Aden summit was received with a feverish and hysterical campaign organized by the imperialism media monopolies and their reactionary and racist supporters. This not only reflects the displeasure of those quarters at the outcome of the summit meeting but also confirms the nature of the nationalist and class struggle going on in this region between the nationalist liberation movement and the world imperialist system.

Brother Brig Salih Muslih Qasim expressed his confidence that the outcome of the Aden tripartite summit will add to the impetus of the Arab and African struggle against imperialism and will constitute a new starting point for strengthening the progressive forces in the Arab homeland and Africa. He also stressed that the outcome of the Aden tripartite summit does not, under any circumstance, constitute an axis or bloc as alleged by the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary propaganda trumpets. Likewise, the treaty concluded is not aimed at harming the security or sovereignty of any state in the region.

Brother Brig Salih Muslih Qasim also said, in reply to a question on the PDRY's policy of support for the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, that the PDRY considers itself an inseparable part of the Arab national liberation movement and our Yemeni people as inseparable from the distiny of our Arab peoples.

The minister of defense said that, on this basis, the PDRY has, and will continue to, participate in strengthening the Arab nationalist and progressive forces. It will continue its principled and determined resistance to the conspiratorial designs and capitulatory and treacherous policies that aim to destroy the Arab national liberation movement and eliminate the just Arab causes, headed by the cause of the Palestinian Arab people.

He stressed that the PDRY will always remain faithful to its pan-Arab commitments, whether by continuing material and political support for the Palestinian revolution groups or by contributing to the defense of the national sovereignty of our Arab peoples and to the resistance to Zionist policies of expansion and treachery. He also stressed that the PDRY will never hesitate, even for a moment, to contribute to the defense of the sovereignty of any Arab country subjected to external threats of aggression, if circumstances demand.

The brother defense minister also spoke about the development of our armed forces and the role of the YSP and the Yemen Youth Union in their development. He said that we can say with confidence and pride that our armed forces today have become, in the hands of the party, a predominant class force for entrenching the authority of the toiling masses, protecting the revolutionary gains and maintaining national sovereignty.

YAR

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

JN232014 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Excerpt] An agreement was signed today between the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Corporation, and the corporation of [words indistinct] for the Soviet Government.

The agreement calls for carrying out studies and work on a map of water resource utilization in the San'a' basin, and also to carry out the studies and necessary designs to build two dams. One in the area of (Shahib) to the southeast of the capital city of San'a' and the other in the area of (Ray'an) to the northwest. The total cost of these projects amounts to 7 million rubles. Work on these projects will begin the date the agreement is signed.

The agreement was signed for the YAR by Dr Ahmad al-Hamdani, minister of agriculture and fisheries, and for the Soviet side by Vladimir Mordvinov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations.

MENA CARRIES PART TWO OF AS-SADAT'S NBC INTERVIEW

NC231936 Cairo MENA in English 1930 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Part two of Egyptian President Anwar As-Sadat's 22 September interview with NBC television network]

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat said he hoped agreement on Palestinian autonomy would be reached before the end of this year. He said in his interview with NBC that the Middle East peace process would continue, and Egypt, Israel and the United States are committed to negotiate on the subject as full partners. He said that are all imbued with good intentions, and what is required is presistence.

On home affairs, President as-Sadat said that in his recent crackdown on the sectarian sedition he did not strike at democracy but at those who abused it.

He said that Egypt sent weapons to the Afghan militants aboard American planes, adding that he would continue to do so until the Soviets quit Afghanistan.

He said that Islam, like Christianity, is a religion of love and fraternity, not a religion of blood and vengeance like that of Ayatollah Khomeyni of Iran.

The text of questions and answers follow:

[Question] Miller: Nobody could accuse you of being a man who thinks or acts small. You seem to do great deeds and to think great plans for your country. It seems that what you have in mind, the steps that the Cabinet is going to announce here are very broad measures that deal with the very heart of societies. Is that true or am I misreading what you have in mind?

[Answer] As-Sadat: Ah well you see, I have already expressed some of my views in my paper MAY that was published last Monday, yesterday. My idea is this: All the, I mean the political behaviour under a multi-party system has been contaminated by the period of the multi-party system before the 23d July 1952 when we made our revolution. We made our revolution, and I was the one who declared it from the broadcast. We made it because the multi-party system has proved to be corrupted really and lost every respect of the country. When we adopted again now the multi-party system as the only safe way towards democracy we don't want to have the same attitude or the same behavior. The minimum effects, you may be astonished to know this, but I, sorry to say it, quite frankly, I have always been frank with my friends in the United States. The elementary effects in, in the political behaviour, needs to be regulated by law. Of course, in any other country maybe, or in any other place it doesn't need this, but again I may tell you, look to what has happened in Portugal. The same thing without regulating the, I mean, the minimum ethic, of political behaviour the country is in danger and even the morale is in danger. For instance, could you imagine that, a certain element, one of them is deputy president of one of my parties, goes to the mosques and gives speeches in the mosques to explain this sectarian strife for his own political ends? This sectarian strife in my idea is, a great calamity. I can't permit it. One of the political parties whom you thought that [word indistinct] whon or who said or declared because of, of their high voices that I am eliminating the opposition and or that I can't tolerate any criticism also, well what about this vice-president of one party going to the mosque and abusing the government, abusing the regime and instigating the youth, exploiting religion for the ends of his political party. This is, I say, a national calamity. That's what I am against. I didn't at all hit democracy. I hope I hit those who tried to exploit democracy because the damage is not in democracy itself. The damage is in the conduct and behavior of those people.

[Question] Miller: Mr President, we heard reports that your negotiators and those from Israel have made great progress in normalisation discussions. This is something that you told the Israelis at the last summit that you would do, you have obviously done it, you're doing it now. Has your task of improving normalisation between the countries been made easier now that you have dealt with those who were some of your most vocal critics about your relations with Israel?

[Answer] As-Sadat: Not at all. It was nothing to do with this, believe me, despite the fact that the fanaticism, the fanatics on the Moslem side are trying to exploit religion, also against the Jews and against Camp David also. But let me tell you this. Look to the result of the plebiscite. It is that. Eleven million said yes, sixty thousand said no. I have 99.9 for peace and for my relations with Israel. After the visit, the last visit of Premier Begin to me here in Alexandria, and as I mentioned in the press conference after that we have committed ourselves to continue the peace process and we hope that we can reach before the end of the year, agreement on the second part of Camp David, namely, the full autonomy. But in the field of the relations, the bilateral relations between Egypt and Israel, believe me it took no time from us at all to reach every understanding and I think Premier Begin agrees with me.

[Question] Miller: As far as your autonomy negotiations are concerned the next session will be held tomorrow. What is your feeling about the autonomy talks? You said you hope for a settlement by the end of the year. How quickly do you think things really can move?

[Answer] As-Sadat: Let us hope that in these meetings they can prepare a working paper, and the three of us should be in it, Egypt, Israel and the United States, as a full partner. As I have already expressed, we could have never achieved anything in the peace process without the United States and we could never achieve in the future anything without the United States as a full partner with us. Let me hope that a certain paper can be reached, for instance on the heads of agreement, what we call the heads of agreements, and then after that the details can be reached. Or any other way that can be proposed by Israel or the United States. It is open for the three of us to work together.

[Question] Miller: The differences between your definition of autonomy and the Israelis definition of autonomy are very, very broad. How can you hope to bridge that gap?

[Answer] As-Sadat: Well, it has happened before. We had a very wide gap before Camp David also in the ten months between my visit to Jeruslaem and our convening in Camp David, and we have managed to bridge this gulf between us. Let us hope that by perseverance and good will and I have no doubt of this, etiher from my side or from the side of Premier Begin, I have no doubt, let us presevere with the help of the United States to reach this agreement. I have already expressed in my press conference in Alexandria with Premier Begin when he was here with me that if need be, if it need a month or so next year, if it can't be reached this year, a month or so next year it can be reached, we must be open and we must persevere. All difficulties, all differences, whenever we sit and discuss it like civilized people, round the table, it can be solved.

[Question] Miller: Mr President, you are very famous as being a man of dramatic action. Do you perhaps have some kind of dramatic action in mind that would spark something for the autonomy talks, that would bridge the gap, that would produce some real movement?

[Answer] As-Sadat: Not at all, not at all. I think it doesn't need this. We needed it when we were in the stalemate before '77, and with all these barriers of hatred and bitterness and so, but now, no.

I enjoy the normal relations with our friends there in Israel. My personal friendship with Premier Begin, we can sit together always and speak everything in our minds now without any reservation also. This is a great step that we have reached and it doesn't need at all any drastic or so action.

[Question] Miller: Perhaps this is a little philosophical, but I did want to ask you, how would you describe the large contribution that you have made to the peace in the Middle East? If you look back at what you have accomplished, how would you describe what you have done?

[Answer] As-Sadat: Well, let me ask you to ask me this question after we reach an agreement upon the full autonomy because it is the proper approach towards the comprehensive agreement that we are after, the three of us, Egypt, the United States and Israel.

[Question] Miller: Then there is no question at all in your mind that you will reach such an agreement?

[Answer] As-Sadat: There is no question in my mind and I can speak for Menahem Begin also because as I told you before we made our press conference in Alexandria last month, we committed ourselves, the two of us together, to reach this.

[Question] Miller: One last question if you would be so kind Mr President. This is kind of a little different from what I've asked you so far. Again maybe a little philosophical. How would you describe the contribution that you have made both to Islam and to the Western worlds understanding of Islam?

[Answer] As-Sadat: Ah, this is a very important question. You have heard me since the start of Khomeyni in Iran, and when this hostage problem took place, I said, this is not Islam. This is Khomeynism. I am proud to be the only Muslim head of state who has faced Khomeyni by this. Islam really was hurt by the actions of Khomeyni as a Muslim as he describes himself and Iran as a Muslim state and a Muslim constitution. They are now persecuting the people in the streets. Yesterday there has been one of their mullahs who came out and said not to take anyone to the hospital, the injured, you have to get rid to the [as received]. Really, this is not Islam. The man has hurt Islam. Islam, like Christianity, is a religion of love, of brotherhood, it is not at all blood or revenge like Khomeyni is doing there and I told you. I am telling my people a very funny story. Look to what has happened from this man. When the Mecca incident took place in Saudi Arabia, and it was declared from Washington that something has happened there, Khomeyni came out immediately and said the United States has done this. Well, demonstrations came out in the Muslim streets everywhere and in Pakistan. In Pakistan they burned the American Embassy and killed 2. Look what has happened after that. I'm giving my people this example, a few months after that the Soviet Union seized Afganistan and hit the Muslim people in Afghanistan, and Pakistan couldn't find anyone to come to their rescue except the United States who has now made a program of 3 or 4 years to provide them with the necessary armaments to defend themselves. Let me, let me reveal this secret? The first moment the Afghani incident took place, the United States contacted me here and the transport of armaments to the Afghanis started from Cairo here on United States planes. I am revealing this to tell my, my people all over the Muslim world--look what one man can damage like Khomeyni and others. I blame the Muslim leaders because they should have come out and told Khomeyni this is not Islam.

[Question] Miller: Are you still assisting your Muslim brothers in Afghanistan through shipments of arms?

[Answer] As-Sadat: For sure, and I shall continue to do this until the Afghanis get rid of the Soviets out of their country.

[Question] Miller: Are they American arms that you are shipping or are they Egyptian arms?

[Answer] As-Sadat: No, Soviet arms. I didn't ask the United States, really, to send me planes to take the armaments. No, they told me the American plane has already arrived. What, we need so and so and so, requirements of armaments, of Russian armaments. I opened my stores to them but you were very generous, you have paid also for the armaments.

[Question] Miller: These were Russian arms that your army had, which you sold and which were then shipped from here to...

[Answer] As-Sadat: By plane.

[Question] Miller: Flown by plane, directly? How did they fly into, how did they get into Afghanistan?

[Answer] As-Sadat: Well, you have to ask your people, I've never asked them this. It's not my job, it is your job...but, believe me, historically this must be recorded, that the first moment the United States sent me airplanes and told me please open your stores for us, so that we can give the Afghans the armaments they need to fight and I said I gave the armaments and you have paid also the price, despite that we are indebted to you in many ways, really.

[Question] Miller: Thank you very much, Mr President.

[Answer] As-Sadat: Not at all.

PALESTINIAN AUTONOMY TALKS RESUME 23 SEP

NC231352 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)--The negotiations on autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza resumed at noon today with delegations representing the United States and Israel participating. The negotiations came to a halt in June of last year.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, headed Egypt's delegation at the talks. Dr Burrus Ghali, the minister of state for foreign affairs, participated in the talks. The delegation also included a number of experts and technicians.

Yosef Burg headed the Israeli delegation, which included Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and a number of experts and technicians. U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton, who was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis and a number of U.S. advisers and experts, headed the U.S. delegation.

The talks began with a 10-minute open session at which Kamal Hasan 'Ali welcomed the delegations and said: Today we start the negotiations for Palestinian autonomy hoping that we will achieve success in these negotiations, particularly with the participation of the new U.S. Administration and after the recent elections in Israel. We are convinced that the world's attention is focused on us and watching the outcome of our work in these negotiations.

'Ali added: We are starting this new phase of negotiations with hope, trust and an open mind for achieving the mission entrusted to us within the framework of the Camp David agreement and the continuing U.S. efforts as a full partner in the peace process, which basically aims at restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He said: We consider this phase of the negotiations a long stride toward achieving our objectives, namely, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the area.

Speaking next, Yosef Burg, Israeli interior minister and head of the delegation to the negotiations, expressed the hope that the outcome of the resumption of the negotiations will be fruitful. He said: We have come to resume the negotiations with the good will not only depending on the Camp David agreement but with the good will that we have brought with us. We hope to accomplish fruitful work with this good will though our earnest negotiations.

Burg added: We are here with a philosophy based on contributing toward the achievement of peace and humanity for the peoples of the states in this area. He said that the Camp David process has had two results, the peace agreement which Israel is committed to implement to the letter and the commitments concerning the negotiations over autonomy.

Burg added that the two sides' stands have always been clear, although they have not been identical. We hope to reach an understanding regarding the agenda for making strides toward success.

Speaking next, Alfred Atherton, U.S. Ambassador in Cairo and head of the U.S. delegation, stressed that the new U.S. Administration under President Reagan will continue in these negotiations as a full partner. He said that the United States is committed with its stand and role to achieving peace in the area in accordance with the Camp David agreement.

Atherton added that the U.S. has a two-fold interest in these negotiations, as reflected in the fact its two ambassadors in Cairo and Tel Aviv are leading the delegation and several U.S. experts are attending.

The meeting was then held in camera. The closed session lasted 45 minutes after which the three delegations outlined their government's stands and views on the new phase in the negotiations.

MENA also learned that it was agreed that a subcommittee will meet at 1600 today to draw up the agenda, including some subjects to the discussed in the coming sessions.

It was learned that the heads of the delegations will meet at the same time, after which a plenary meeting will be held at 1800 today attended by the heads and members of the delegations.

MENA Reports Egyptian Position

NC231550 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)--MENA has learned that during this morning's closed session Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister and head of the Egyptian delegation to the autonomy negotiations, reviewed in full Egypt's position on the negotiations. The session was attended by the delegations of Egypt, Israel and the United States.

'Ali emphasized Egypt's firm position on completion of the autonomy measures. MENA has learned that this position can be summed up in the following points:

1. The military authority in the West Bank and Gaza should be terminated and the Israeli military forces should withdraw to limited and specified positions.
2. The concept of full autonomy for the Palestinians should be defined on the basis of the provisions of the UN Charter, especially its interpretation of autonomy as being a transitional and temporary phase that leads to the right of self-determination.

3. East Jerusalem is considered an integral part of the West Bank and what applies to the West Bank applies to it.
4. The building of settlements should stop. The settlements already built in the West Bank and Gaza are illegal.
5. Israel should take steps to gain the confidence of the Palestinian people and encourage the Paletinians to participate in the peace efforts. Such steps should include the release of Palestinian political detainees, reunion of Palestinian families, and freedom of expression and movement to and from the West Bank for the Palestinians.
6. The concept of security should be defined because it is a matter that concerns all parties, not only Israel.
7. Importance of dialogue with the Palestinians.

MENA has also learned that during the closed session, the U.S. side confirmed the commitment of the United States to exert all efforts as a full partner in the negotiations and in the peace process aimed at achieving a durable and comprehensive peace in the region.

Israeli Concept Rejected

NC231907 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1833 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)--The heads of the Egyptian, Israeli and U.S. delegations to the autonomy talks held a 2-hour meeting this afternoon.

MENA has learned that at this meeting Egypt rejected the Israeli concept of the confidence-building measures as explained by the Israeli side at this morning's meeting of the three delegations. The Israeli side believes that the confidence-building measures are a subject that concerns the Israeli Government and are not supposed to be a subject for discussions and that the decisions taken by Israel are within the framework of its policy and its concept of autonomy.

The Egyptian delegation affirmed that these measures aim at encouraging the Palestinians to participate in the negotiations and are not merely unilateral decisions. The Egypti delegation insisted on putting the confidence-building subject on the agenda.

The Egyptian delegation also rejected the Israeli concept of security. The Israeli side said that Israel must discuss the security issue with Jordan and no one else.

MENA has also learned that the U.S. side played a reconciliatory role and affirmed the U.S. commitment as a full partner in the negotiations.

Meanwhile, the drafting committee held a meeting this afternoon that was attended by experts and technicians from the three delegations to prepare a report to the general committee. MENA has learned that agreement was reached on some topics, including the agenda of the coming meetings. It was agreed that the general tripartite committee will resume its meeting in Israel next month.

The general committee was scheduled to resume its work this evening. However, it was decided that it resume its work at 1100 tomorrow to enable the subcommittee to complete its work tonight.

More Talks Planned

NC232049 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1940 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)--MENA has learned that during the meeting between the Egyptian, Israeli and U.S. delegations this afternoon agreement was reached on holding the next round of autonomy talks in Israel during the last week of October. MENA has also learned that the next round of talks will be preceded by a tripartite meeting at the level of experts.

MENA has also learned that agreement was reached on holding a third round of talks in Cairo in November.

This evening Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali gave a dinner in honor of the three delegations.

Meanwhile, the subcommittee emanating from the autonomy talks will continue its work until a late hour tonight to prepare the statement that will be issued on the talks and which will be read during the press conference that will be held tomorrow afternoon following the general meeting which the three delegations will hold at 1130 tomorrow.

The subcommittee will also discuss the dates of the next sessions of the talks and will set a final date for reaching an agreement on autonomy so that the talks will not continue indefinitely.

Some quarters say that there are proposals that this final date for reaching an agreement on autonomy be next April.

Cairo Radio Comments

NC231450 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary: "More Responsibility and Commitment To Enhance the Peace Process and Confront the Plotters"]

[Text] The new round of autonomy negotiations among Egypt, the United States and Israel reflects the desire of the three sides to complete the peace process in the Middle East and surmount the difficulties that have so far been encountered, especially since it has now transpired beyond any doubt that certain forces are interested in hindering--if not torpedoing--this process with all the means that serve these forces' sinister aims. They believe that these aims can only be fulfilled through the destruction of any inclination toward peace or stability in the Middle East.

It is known that the peace process from the very beginning has been the target of fierce attacks by the Soviet Union and its agents in the region. Recently these attacks have noticeably escalated to the point of plotting, planning coups d'etat and invasions in the region. The citadels of rejection in Damascus, Tripoli, Algiers, Aden and elsewhere--being subservient to the Soviet Union--have become pits of terrorism seeking to shake stability and promote an atmosphere of tension, trouble and chaos in the region because the plotters have realized that peace and stability are the biggest threat to their plots.

It has been noticed that whenever a new phase begins in the Middle East peace process, the Soviet Union and its agents increase their plots against Egypt which is considered the prime moving force for peace.

It is clear that the recent Soviet plot to foment sectarian strife and deal a blow to national unity in Egypt was part of Moscow's schemes against peace in the Middle East.

Although differences in the Egyptian and Israeli concepts of autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank of Gaza have created some difficulties in the negotiations, what underlines hope for the future is what has been achieved so far on the road to peace and the agreement by the sides concerned not to let these differences adversely affect the future of peace as well as their agreement that all disputes should be taken up at the negotiation table.

On the basis of its pan-Arab responsibility and its insistence on a just settlement to the Palestine problem that will fulfill the aspirations of the Palestinian and Arab peoples, Egypt is confident that comprehensive peace will undoubtedly come, particularly since daily the peace process is gaining enough intrinsic power and international support to make it continue and progress.

Egypt, however, has cautioned and will continue to caution that responsible and committed work by the sides involved in the negotiations for the promotion of comprehensive peace in the Middle East is the best way to overcome all difficulties.

Today, as a new phase in the peace process begins with the resumption of the negotiations on full autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, we believe that the difficulties facing the peace process, and the malicious plots hatched against it, leave the parties to the negotiations no choice but to live up to their immense responsibility with more courage, responsibility and adherence to the letter and spirit of the documents they signed to boost the peace process and confront the schemes of the plotters.

COPTIC COUNCIL EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR AS-SADAT

NC232222 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2105 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Excepts] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)--The General Communal Council of the Orthodox Copts [al-Majlis Al-Milli Al-'Amm li al-Aqbat al-Urthudux] has expressed full support for all the decisions issued by President Anwar as-Sadat to protect national unity. The council considered these decisions an important turning point in the history of modern Egypt.

In a statement following a meeting it held today in the presence of the papal committee formed by a decree from President as-Sadat, the council said that it thanks God for giving Egypt a sagacious leader who is capable of foreseeing dangers and of taking the appropriate measures to safeguard the homeland against these dangers.

The General Communal Council of the Orthodox Copts unanimously issued the following resolutions:

It fully supports:

1. All the decisions on safeguarding national unity issued by the president in his historic statement to the joint meeting of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council on 5 September. The council considers these decisions an important turning point in the history of modern Egypt and shares the view that they are a new revolution heralding a new dawn and hope for a free and dignified life, a revolution that has restored to Egypt its national glories, strongly unified its sons and reinstated confidence and reassurance in the hearts of all of them.

2. It lauds the significance of the referendum, its brilliant result and the magnificent national stand which the Egyptian people adopted on that memorable day when full solidarity was manifested between Christians and Muslims, clergymen and laymen alike.

3. It affirms full confidence in the papal committee in view of its members' long and honorable history in serving the homeland and the church. The council affirms that it will sincerely cooperate with this papal committee to enable it to perform its duties and prerogatives successfully and with God's help.

4. It supports all the decision issued by the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Copts at its meeting held on 22 September.

5. It completely endorses all the recommendations issued by the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council in their reports on the president's statement of 5 September. The recommendations that fall within the jurisdiction of the General Communal Council of the Orthodox Copts will be implemented.

6. It expresses profound thanks and gratitude to the president for his cancellation of the term "the two elements of the nation: Muslims and Christians," a term which was in use until 5 September, and for his decision that as of that date there is one element and one nation in Egypt. This decision by the head of the Egyptian family has affirmed the unity of the Egyptian nation.

MENA REPORTS AS-SADAT PRESS COUNCIL SPEECH

NC231628 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has stated that we are now in a crucial stage in which the responsibility of the journalist is not in any case less than the responsibility of the president of the republic. He also said that the recent measures which were taken were not a "disaster" for Egypt, as some people had depicted them, and they were not aimed at striking at democracy but rather were in the interest of the coming generations for whom we did not want to leave anything that might distort the wonderful structure that we had built for them.

This was in the speech President as-Sadat delivered before the Higher Press Council at its first meeting today.

The meeting began with a speech by Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, speaker of the Consultative Council and chairman of the Higher Press Council, in which he greeted President as-Sadat and spoke about his struggle for his people.

President as-Sadat then addressed the members of the Higher Press Council, saying: Your chief duty is to affirm constitutional legality and the state of institutions.

The president asked the Higher Press Council to discuss and evaluate the press experiment since the 23 July Revolution up to the present time and to submit this experiment to the people frankly and in all of its aspects.

The president also asked the council to form a committee to examine everything that is published about Egypt abroad and to hold those Egyptian journalists who attack Egypt accountable. He said that anyone who departs from the press code of ethics must not remain in the press.

The president asked the Higher Press Council not to publish any new newspapers before finishing its study of the press experiment during the past period.

President as-Sadat began his speech by welcoming the members of the Higher Press Council at its first meeting following its formation. He said: I address special greetings to all those from the past generations who worked in the Egyptian press field--those who departed from our world and those who are old now and are still among us, above all Hafiz Mahmud.

President as-Sadat said that the past generations worked under the harshest circumstances that a journalist could face--under colonialism and under a ruler who hailed from a foreign family, in addition to the corruption of the parties and the pashas.

President as-Sadat said that the people's decision to consider the press a fourth estate did not stem from a vacuum nor did it come about because a ruler wanted to adopt a situation that would perpetuate his stay in power.

President as-Sadat added that the prerevolution governments tried to restrict the press through the issuance of laws. The majority party submitted these laws in accordance with the king's request. However, all these attempts failed after they had been confronted by that generation's youth.

President as-Sadat said: In contrast, we have made the press a fourth estate. We have been ahead of the world in this field as we have been ahead of it in historic initiative.

In his speech President as-Sadat spoke about the importance of the press role in society. He said that the press is considered a serious weapon in society. It is more so in a society like ours, he added, because there is a high rate of illiteracy. The press must therefore be committed and must endeavor to educate the people and guide them on a sound course. In this respect the president noted that God almighty honored and swore by the pen when he referred to "the pen and what is written down." The president also said: To this day the pen remains the most magnificent and sacred gift from God to man. With the pen, man writes down his history and traditions. A written word is never lost.

Addressing the journalists represented by the members of the Higher Press Council, President as-Sadat said: I consider myself one of you. I have worked with many of you sitting here. This is why I truly say that the press, after it has been legally made the fourth authority, places on your shoulders a responsibility which--I am not exaggerating when I say--is not less important than that of the president of the republic, if not more.

Again referring to the importance of the role of the press in society, the president said: The responsibility of the journalists is very important because our people are still suffering from a high rate of illiteracy.

President as-Sadat added: Despite this fact our people are a flame of intelligence. They have not misunderstood any decision I have made since I assumed power. I sensed this on 4 February 1971 when I submitted to parliament an initiative which I offered to the world for the sake of peace. I made that initiative and I said that I was ready to sign a peace agreement with Isreal. This was the first time an Arab ruler dared say such a thing. That was 22 years ago [as received] when the air was full of slogans and attitudes.

The president added: The centers of power were surprised to the point that the foreign minister had a breakdown. I heard later that they said: Today is Thursday and tomorrow is Friday, let us see how he is going to face the people after the prayers.

I announced it on Thursday morning and on the evening of the same day the people, of whom 70 percent were illiterate, understood and supported my initiative.

On the same subject, President as-Sadat referred to another story, the story of his historic initiative of 1977. He said: In January 1977 the incidents of 18 and 19 January occurred. The communists described these incidents as a popular and national uprising. They meant to say that my feet were not firm on the ground.

In November of the same year I went to Jerusalem and when I returned, all the people--99 percent of the people of Cario came out in support of the initiative. Some of them really wept. All the people for the first time came out on the streets from the airport to Al-Jizah. There was not one Egyptian man or woman who did not appear on the streets. For the first time the Egyptian woman presented a glorious and magnificent image. She actually does that whenever there is a fateful decision.

The president added: What I mean to say is that despite the illiteracy, the broad base of the masses is intelligent and brilliant and likes values and sincerity and admires a man who fears nothing when it comes to what is right. He continued: This is why a serious responsibility falls on your shoulders because we are at a fateful stage and at a turning point.

Discussing recent events, President as-Sadat said that with the recent referendum, we have said "no" to sectarianism because with the sectarian sedition Egypt would have faced something more devastating than earthquakes and storms.

Matters have reached a dangerous level of ignorance, fanaticism and disavowal of the simplest principles of life.

The president said: We are one people and one element. A Copt is not only he who is Christian, but many Muslims are of Coptic origin. I had taken these resolutions out of confidence that the broad base of the people would understand them, which they actually did.

The president said: I knew that Egypt's enemies and a misled minority from among our sons would exploit this. However, I made my decision because it is a question of life and death. I adopted these resolutions not because a national disaster was going to happen but because we did not want to leave for our future generations anything that would threaten the wonderful structure we had built for them.

The president said: The press as an authority is a combination of all the authorities, hence its importance and strength. He added: We hope that we will not copy from anyone. Every society has its circumstances and traditions. I do not want a press like the American press. The American press school which has been applied in Egypt has failed.

The president said: We have tried the journalist who is close to the authority and who wants to be a politician to the extent that one journalist has thought too much of himself and believed that he is the successor to 'Abd an-Nasir or his great inheritor. We do not want such a phenomenon to occur again because a journalist in such a case is not a journalist.

The president said: Your responsibility in the coming stage is to affirm constitutional legality and the state of institutions, fight indiscipline and combat rancor, rancor which has been represented in casting doubt on everything and attempting to strike at institutions.

Giving an example of the lies and the campaigns of casting doubt, President as-Sadat said a professor at Al-Azhar University stood at the university's rostrum to lie and say that the newspaper MAY took 5 million pounds from the state. Another person said we want someone like Khomeyni here. A third arrogantly said that he knew that Begin informed As-Sadat in advance about the attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor. A fourth said that the canal celebrations had cost 10 million pounds. Some parties in the country encouraged those persons. These parties attacked the state and the president to the extent that an old politician such as Fathi Radwan unashamedly said that the opposition has the right to cast doubt and incite.

President as-Sadat asked the Higher Press Council not to license the publication of new newspapers before it completes its appraisal of the past press experiment. He also asked the council to make an appraisal of the newspapers AL-AHALI, ASH-SHA'B and MAY. He asked that committees should make this appraisal and submit its outcome to the people. He also asked for the formation of committees to study everything published abroad, since most of what is published abroad comes from Egypt.

The president said: I did not strike at democracy. I could have reimposed martial law and reopened the detention centers. However, there is no retreat from democracy. All that happened was that I used my right under Article 74 of the Constitution to open a political investigation. I put into custody the main elements who were behind the sectarian sedition, as well as the party officials who prepared for it. The leaders of the parties should have been among those who were taken in custody.

The president said that democracy is innocent of all this triviality and that the fault is not in democracy but in some individuals.

The president said the second thing I ask you to do is to appraise the press experiment in the past period and to submit the outcome to the people because there is nothing of which we are ashamed.

The president said: Study the condition of the press, what happened in that period, and compare it with the past. You then put controls or a code of ethics to which we will adhere. You then say your opinion of those who curse Egypt, whether they live at home or abroad.

The president said: Anyone who departs from the charter of press action must not remain in the press. The association must clear them from the press. Then President as-Sadat gave an example of an association member who stooped very low, abandoned all ideals, and spoke words that can only be described as despicable and ignoble. It is strange that this journalist is still a member of the association.

Concluding, President as-Sadat said: Your work method belongs to you. I wish you success--you and all the other institutions in modern Egypt, strong Egypt, Egypt of peace, Egypt--the whole world knows about its nobility and heritage.

God willing, the mission will be carried out in the most perfect way. May God's peace and mercy be with you.

AS-SADAT INVITES MITTERRAND TO VISIT EGYPT

NC232250 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2235 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)--Mena has learned that President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has sent an invitation to French President Francois Mitterrand to visit Egypt at any time the French president will specify. The invitation was conveyed to Monsieur Jacques Attali, special adviser to President Mitterrand, who was received by President as-Sadat in Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah this morning. Attali gave President as-Sadat a message from President Mitterrand which was described as important and very cordial.

MENA has also learned that President as-Sadat's talks with Attali dealt with President as-Sadat's meetings with French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson in Luxembourg when Cheysson was French ambassador to the EEC. During those meetings, President as-Sadat and Cheysson established strong relations and shared common views on many issues.

CORRECTION TO AS-SADAT INTERVIEW ON SEDITION

The following correction should be made to the item entitled "MAY Interviews As-Sadat on Sedition 21 Sep," published in the 21 September Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT on page D 1: The second sentence in paragraph five should read: We say "no" to those who are asking us to open the radio and television programs with the verse which says: "Every act of hearing or of seeing or of [feeling in] the heart will be inquired into [on the day of reckoning]," just as they previously did in the newspaper of the Muslim Brotherhood.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

No 469

JN221712 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 22 Sep 81

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Sep (INA)--Our armed forces have inflicted human and material losses on the Iranian regime's forces. These amounted to 125 killed and 11 tanks, 5 armored personnel carriers, 5 vehicles, 7 guns and other equipment destroyed.

A communique issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command here today said Iraqi fighter planes today attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the central and southern sectors of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits. Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 469 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With absolute faith in our Arab nation's right to life and in defense of the freedom and honor of great Iraq, our valiant armed forces fought those of the backward racist Persian regime with great alertness and enthusiasm. On this day last year the forces of Arabism moved to put an end to the racist Persian arrogance and aggression against our people, land and waters. On this occasion our armed forces emphasize with great confidence their determination to continue their just war until the enemy recognizes all our legitimate rights. Following are the results of our military activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Several of our forward units attacked enemy concentrations and positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region last night and this morning. Fierce clashes, in which all weapons were used, took place and forced the enemy to abandon some positions and retreat, leaving behind 42 killed and a large amount of destroyed equipment, some of which is the following: 11 tanks; 5 armored personnel carriers; 5 vehicles, 1 carrying charlatan Khomeyni guards; 5 guns; 1 excavator; 1 rocket launcher; 5 stockpiles of hardware; and 4 observation posts.

B. Our units pounded enemy concentrations opposite our positions in the Dezful region and forced them to flee, leaving behind 43 killed and 1 gun and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed.

C. Ten killed in the Shush region.

D. Nine killed and one gun, one stockpile of hardware and one observation post destroyed in the Abadan region.

E. Seven killed in the Nowsud region. It has been confirmed that enemy losses in the same region on 20 September 1981 were eight killed.

F. Four killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.

G. Two killed in the Mimak region opposite one of our units' positions in Sayf Sa'd.

H. One of our patrols discovered in no man's land a number of medium and light weapons and a large quantity of various kinds of hardware left behind by the enemy during the recent battle in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region. All are serviceable.

I. Our aircraft today attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the central and southern sectors of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits before returning safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 125 dead and 11 tanks, 5 armored personnel carriers, 5 vehicles, 7 guns, 1 excavator, 1 rocket launcher, 7 stockpiles of hardware and 5 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 30 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: three personnel carriers, three vehicles, one gun and one mortar damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 September 1981

No 470

JN231729 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Communique No 470 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 23 September 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The valiant Iraqi Armed Forces, vanguards of the Arab nation, continued to attack the forces of the racist Persian aggressors in the operational sectors. Following are the results of their activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units clashed with the forces of the illiterate Persians in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region. A fierce battle, which our brave soliders and officers fought with unique valor, took place. The enemy was forced to retreat disappointed after sustaining human and material losses so heavy that they could not be counted by the time this communique was prepared. The enemy also sustained in that same region 46 troops killed and 2 tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 1 vehicle carrying hardware and 1 gun destroyed. In addition, one personnel carrier and one rocket launcher were captured. Both are serviceable.
B. Eight killed and 1 vehicle and three guns destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
C. Three killed in the Mimak region opposite one of our units' positions in Sayf Sa'd.
D. Four vehicles and three stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Abadan region.
E. Two stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Dezful region.
F. Our aircraft today continued to attack the enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct hits before returning safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 57 dead and 2 tanks, 2 personnel carriers, 6 vehicles, 4 guns, 1 rocket launcher and 5 stockpiles of hardware destroyed or captured.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 18 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: one vehicle and five mortars damaged.

AZERI LISTENERS TOLD OF OPPRESSION IN IRAN

GF231231 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, the political, economic and social situation in Iran has reached the point that Iranian administrators can no longer deny anything. The new Iranian regime has been confronted with chaos in every field for over 2 years. The situation of the Iranian peoples has been deteriorating steadily ever since Khomeyni's accession to power. Civil war has been sweeping through Iran.

Apart from all this, the policy of dictatorship and racism against the Iranian peoples is being enhanced. Meanwhile, Khomeyni and his outcasts, who have forced Iran to regress and who have trampled upon the national rights of the Iranian peoples, are continuing to move toward realizing the criminal plans of international imperialism and Zionism, plans aimed at turning the region into a bloodbath.

The disastrous situation in Iran is the result of the policy being pursued by Khomeyni. This is why fear, [word indistinct], crime and disorder are becoming widespread throughout Iran. It is also common knowledge that the civil war in the country is gaining momentum.

These murderers have been committing crimes throughout Iran for over 2 years. The living conditions of the Iranian people are becoming more and more difficult as a result. The disaster that has befallen Iran and the signs of division in this country are common knowledge. Thousands of Iranian nationals have fled to either Turkey or Europe since the beginning of the war between Iran and Iraq. A number have fled Iran so they can continue their business. However, the rest have fled to save themselves from the cruelty of Khomeyni's Islamic revolution guard corps. The number of people fleeing Iran is steadily increasing.

Another calamitous situation for Iran is the question of refugees in the country who have fled the war zone. The unfavorable conditions under which these refugees are living is common knowledge.

Khomeyni and the bloodsucking mullahs around him are responsible for this. The Iranian rulers, endeavoring to mislead the Iranian peoples with their unfounded moves and lies, are shedding blood throughout Iran. They have already executed thousands of patriots and have imprisoned tens of thousands more. However, these impostors and murderous rulers must know that the patience of the Iranian peoples has been exhausted. The fire has been kindled.

ANTI-SYRIAN RADIO ON EXPLOSION IN DAMASCUS

JN191139 Baghdad Voice of Arab Syria in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Damascus--The National Salvation Forces Organization has claimed responsibility for the explosion in the Syrian Prime Ministry on 17 August 1981 and issued a statement to the heroic Syrian masses.

The statement says: The ruling regime in our country has passed all bounds in its atrocious crimes against our honest citizens. Not content with committing crimes against our country, the ruling regime has also moved into fraternal Lebanon. That's why our organization found itself compelled to move with a nationalist armed strength to deal heavy blows to the agent clique. We claim responsibility for the explosion in the Prime Ministry on 17 August. The special observation group killed a defense squad officer when he tried to oppose the group near the Prime Ministry.

The organization says: Our announcement comes a bit late for security reasons. Even though coincidence has saved the regime's ministers from their fate at the hands of the courageous strugglers, we reiterate that we shall pursue every traitor until he receives his punishment.

We pledge to our heroic Syrian people that we shall pursue this course until we topple the traitor regime.

[Signed] The Command of the National Salvation Forces Organization

COMMENTARY: DON'T ABANDON CURRENT MODERATE POLICY

JN231900 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1612 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Station Commentary]

[Text] Jordan's policy has always been characterized as moderate, which has helped this country win the confidence and respect of all sides, has enable it to occupy a distinguished position in the international community and, furthermore, has offered it a good opportunity to outline its stands and points of view in a sincere, clear and courageous manner.

Jordan has always believed that, in order to safeguard national and pan-Arab interests, one should adopt a neutral stand on international struggle. Jordan has always adhered to this stand both during ordinary times and during very critical and sensitive ones. The various sides of the international struggle understood Jordan's stands and, therefore, responded by establishing balanced relations with this country that would keep it from being a party to this or that struggle and prevent it from being a satellite of this or that power.

Hence, we were disappointed at the U.S.-Israeli agreement to establish a strategic alliance between them. This disappointment was reflected in the prime minister's statement before the National Consultative Council when he announced that this alliance had dealt a blow to the Jordanian policy of moderation.

The prime minister's statement underlining the serious impact of this alliance on the policy of moderation does not mean, in one way or another, that Jordan is abandoning this policy as much as it means that Jordan is determined to continue pursuing it. This is due to the fact that, under the policy of moderation, we were not with one side against another and, therefore, in the wake of the U.S.-Israeli alliance we cannot deviate from this policy or seek another alternative. Actually, the blow that was dealt to Jordan's policy of moderation will only increase our determination to maintain this policy, stemming from our desire to safeguard our national and pan-Arab interests.

In the absence of this policy of moderation and the failure to establish balanced relations with the sides of the international struggle, all our causes would be subjected to the most serious threats and even to neglect in the maze of the international struggle and the contradicting foreign policies in this region.

Unlike others, we here in Jordan were not surprised by the U.S.-Israeli stratigic alliance, but we were shocked, simply because this coincided with the U.S. presentation of itself as a prominent power that might contribute to the search for a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The announcement of the alliance at this particular time means that the United States has given up this image it has always claimed.

Stemming from our concern for the higher interests of our nation, for our main causes and for the continuation of the policy of moderation that has always distinguished us, we see that the Arab reply to the U.S.-Israeli alliance should not take the form of becoming implicated in counteralliances, because this will lead us, through good or ill intentions, to fully comply with the real aims of the U.S.-Israeli alliance and to its short or long term objectives.

The first of these objectives may be to distract our attention from the continued Israeli aggression against our land and rights and involve us in the ongoing struggle of interests of the superpowers.

We have always called for building up an intrinsic Arab power that is capable of protecting our rights and defending our present and future, a power capable of establishing the best relations with the various sides of the international struggle based on the principles of mutual respect and mutual understanding of how relations among states and peoples should be.

Involvement in the game of the international struggle not only threatens our causes, interests and existence but also distracts our attention from focusing on those causes and interests, since we would be fully dragged into the struggle against this or that party or power, which we do not want.

Israel is actually planning for this and is trying to make us lose all our friends and the support of all those who have become aware of the justice of the Arab cause and who are now calling for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories and for the return of the Palestinian people to their own land to fully practice their national sovereignty.

What is certain now is that the scheme behind the U.S.-Israeli alliance is aimed at something more than the occupied territories. It is aimed at national identity by dragging the Arabs into international struggles that would serve only the interests of others at the expense of our own. This would naturally leave us incapable of coping with our present situation and of trying to change it to the situation aspired to by our peoples who are always ready to sacrifice, as they did in the past, in order to achieve it.

KING HUSAYN GRANTS WASHINGTON POST INTERVIEW

JN231921 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] In an interview with today's U.S. newspaper the Washington POST, His Majesty King Husayn said instability will continue to threaten U.S. interests in the region whether or not there is a strategic alliance unless the Reagan administration faces the real reasons behind this instability with integrity, justice and balance. These reasons, he said, are Palestinian rights and Israel's occupation of Arab territories.

His majesty added that, unless these matters are realized in a just manner, peace will not be achieved in these areas and danger will also increase. His Majesty King Husayn said there is proof of a U.S. bias toward a certain side, but expressed the hope that the situation will not remain so. He also expressed the hope that President Reagan would wait, as he had previously promised, to become personally acquainted with the opinions of all other leaders of the region and then define U.S. policy in the Middle East on this basis.

His Majesty King Husayn did not agree with the idea proposed by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who said that the strategic alliance reached during Begin's visit to the United States could include both the Arab states and Israel. He said: Such ideas sometimes make me believe that Washington adopts a simplistic attitude toward this area. Unless a lasting peace is reached, there will be many elements against this situation. Washington's perception of the Soviet threat conflicts with the Arabs' experience. The real danger lies in Israel. When Washington talks about a Soviet threat when Israel is strafing the nuclear reactor in Iraq, a country that has no common border with Israel, Washington's pretext becomes completely unacceptable to us.

His Majesty King Husayn added: What we hope for and desire is that the United States behave freely in accordance with its principles and ideals and solve the Middle East problem in accordance with the traditions that have turned it into a superpower. He expressed the hope that the United States would still desire to work in the region free of external pressures in order to achieve justice and preserve its national interests.

BEGIN IN FAVOR OF NEW PLAN FOR TERRITORIES

TA241014 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] The prime minister believes that the suggestion for a separation between the civilian and the military matters in the territories is a very good idea and will foster a sense of mutual respect between Israel and the residents of the territories. Menahem Begin was speaking to reporters after he met with the president, to whom he reported on his meetings with President as-Sadat and with the heads of the U.S. Administration. The prime minister revealed that the secretary of state totally rejects a NEWSWEEK report to the effect that Haig reprimanded Menehem Begin prior to his return to Israel. As for recent remarks by the defense minister regarding the Sinai campaign of 1956, Menahem Begin said that he had been misquoted. In the prime minister's view, the Sinai campaign was one of the IDF's greatest operations, and it was a rescue operation. In his view there is no place for debate on matters whose protagonists are no longer among the living. The prime minister said he would call in Rabbi Schlomo Goren for a talk on relations between the rabbinate and the state.

PRESS ON NEW WEST BANK PLAN, AUTONOMY TALKS

TA240635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0440 GMT 24 Sep 81

[From the review of the morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] HA'ARETZ discusses the defense minister's plan to open up civilian departments of the Military Government, including senior posts, to local Arab civil servants. The paper says the move may perhaps convince the inhabitants of the territories that Israel is truly willing to realize the idea of autonomy, and may remove doubts over Israel's sincerity on the matter. If the government had been ready for this immediately after Camp David, HA'ARETZ says, who knows: Perhaps the peace process might have proceeded more vigorously.

DAVAR writes that the chances of a large section of the Palestinian public supporting the present position of the Israeli Government are negligible, even if more--and more prominent--local Arabs than in the past agree to join the administration under the Sharon formula. On one point at least, one may hope for a change for the better, the paper says: Putting local civilians in positions currently occupied by military personnel will rid the defense forces, at least partly, of the diseases inherent in any military government, even one trying to fulfill the role of an enlightened occupying power. From other points of view, the new arrangement can do no harm, the paper says, even if it serves no purpose except to delude those who wish to delude themselves.

The Jerusalem POST says that the reversal of policy--and a policy reversal it is, for all the official denials--might in fact help restore to Israel's occupation of the territories its image as the most benign in history. But its more important function is presumably to set the stage for an agreement on the principles of autonomy, which President as-Sadat for one believes could be concluded by the end of this year. Such an agreement, however, might be hard to secure, and if secured, difficult to implement if all of Mr Sharon's measures amount to an attempt to take some of the sting out of occupation but prove to be innocent of any effort to bring the occupation, eventually, to an honorable and agreed end.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that Israel, Egypt and perhaps also the United States can be satisfied with a formal resolution, without pushing the issue of the solution of the Palestinian question. But it would be a cricical mistake to think that the problem itself will become less acute. To the contrary, what is still achievable today, with certain advantages for Israel, will be unattainable when the struggle for a resolution of the Palestinian question becomes sharper. The autonomy talks, if they do not achieve their main goal, may perhaps lend momentum to the delegations and the representatives traveling on the Cairo-Jerusalem line but not the essential momentum for the peace process in our region.

HATZOFE: RESUMPTION OF ANTI-AWACS ACTIVITIES

TA231033 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 23 Sep 81 p 1

[Report by political correspondent in Jerusalem]

[Excerpt] Political circles in Jerusalem yesterday said that Israel would resume its political activities in the United States against the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia, since it has been learned that Saudi Arabia has launched a public relations campaign in favor of the deal.

The circles said they were astonished at the scope of the Saudi activities led by Nasir As-Sultan, the commander of the Saudi Air Force and son of the defense minister. As-Sultan has rented an entire floor in an office building in Washington and he conducts the propaganda campaign from there. In the wake of this activity Israel has decided not to restrain itself any further.

Nevertheless. Israel will adhere to a policy of restraint and noninterference in the internal affairs of the United States. Israeli spokesmen will only reply to pertinent questions regarding Israel's position on the deal. Israeli spokesmen have been maintaining a so-called "low profile."

SECRET JORDANIAN-SOVIET ARMS DEAL REVEALED

TA240610 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] Jordan has secretly signed a small arms deal with the Soviet Union, whereby it will receive several batteries of antiaircraft missiles. Arab sources told our correspondent, Pinhas 'Inbari, that the deal's importance is political, not military. Husayn is seeking to deepen Jordan's affiliation with the bloc of nonaligned countries and to blur its image as a Western country. This subject was discussed in the talks King Husayn held in Moscow some time ago. Jordan asked that the official publication about the arms deal be postponed until after King Husayn's visit to Washington so as not to sour the visit. Our correspondent adds, however, that Husayn has not yet made a final decision on whether to visit Washington; it is possible that the visit will not take place.

AUTONOMY TALKS OPEN AMIDST APPREHENSION

TA231217 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Autonomy discussions began in Cairo at noon with the participation of delegations from Egypt, Israel and the United States. The head of the Egyptian delegation, Minister of Foreign Affairs Kamal Hasan 'Ali, expressed the hope that following two election campaigns in the United States and in Israel, chances would increase for the success of the negotiations.

Our envoy in Cairo, Razi Barqay, reports that the defense minister's latest moves in the territories have aroused curiosity in Egypt. However, the Israeli delegation is apprehensive lest the Egyptians condition any progress on Israel's willingness to make gestures in the territories. The talks will also continue tomorrow and will conclude with a news conference. Minister Sharon left for Cairo this morning and will return to Israel this evening, prior to the conclusion of the current round of the talks.

The Egyptian press has not given prominence to reports on the negotiations and deals with domestic affairs. Among other things, all papers announce that President as-Sadat will make an important speech in a party rally next Wednesday.

PRISONERS ON HUNGER STRIKE OVER AUTONOMY TALKS

TA240823 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] Another hunger strike by security prisoners has been launched at Nafha Jail. The prisons service says that the strike is to protest the opening of the autonomy talks. Yesterday, mothers of security prisoners staged a sit-down strike in the offices of the Red Cross in east Jerusalem, to protest prison conditions.

BUTRUS GHALI COMMENTS ON AUTONOMY TALKS

TA231947 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali interviewed by Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari in English--videotaped]

[Text] [Ghali] If this declaration of principles is not a final goal, I believe it is only a stage to achieve more progress, we have no objection. And this was discussed again during our negotiations in September and October 1980 in Washington, to reach a kind of (?heads of) agreement as a first step and after this (?heads of) agreement we will move at a second step which is to enter in details of the general agreement concerning the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

[Question] So Egypt may agree to switching effort to heads of agreement?

[Answer] We are very flexible. If the two other parties believe that this is important, we have no objection to obtain the head of agreement as a first approach.

[Question] Do you bring to the negotiations any new ideas, new approaches of your own?

[Answer] Our new idea is that one of our [word indistinct] in the last negotiations that we have not paid enough attention to the Palestinians. After all we are discussing the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip without a mandate from the Palestinians. I recognize it will be difficult to have a mandate from the Palestinians. But what we must discuss together is how to find new channels of communication with the Palestinians, how to have direct or indirect contact with the Palestinians; and, again, what is very important, how to adapt measures to build confidence for the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, so that they will look to the negotiations in a different way, so that they will give, that the negotiations will have more credibility. I believe this is a very important element: How to obtain a direct or indirect participation of the Palestinians of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

[Question] I suspect Egypt has some specific ideas on how to establish this kind of new channel, new dialogue, informal or formal with Palestinians?

[Answer] Yes, again, but if the Israelis and the Americans do not agree, the Egyptian idea will have no value. What is important is an agreement between the three partners.

[Question] Would you care to share with me some of the new ideas you have concerning this issue?

[Answer] I'll share this with the two teams of negotiations before I can give you the details.

[Question] How about giving me some advantage?

[Answer] No I can't give you some advantage; for the sake of the negotiations. You agree it is important to discuss with the different ministers and to see what will be their reaction and how they will react and what could be found together to create this new atmosphere. [end videotape]

PRESS AND RADIO COVER AUTONOMY TALKS

Jerusalem POST

TA240727 Jerusalem POST in English 24 Sep 81 pp 1, 2

[Report from Cairo by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] Cairo--Egypt is pressing for "contact" between the autonomy negotiations and the Palestinians--and has immediately run into a wall of Israeli reservations. "The Egyptian demands are dangerous," Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said here last night, after the first day of the resumed negotiations. "Israel is undertaking confidence building measures (in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza) and we don't need to share the credit for them with others."

"We're not interested in taking credit," responded Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, in an interview with the Jerusalem POST. "What's important is that our negotiations be related to the Palestinians...their responses and their attitudes. Otherwise it will just be an academic discussion again."

Top officials of the two countries and of the U.S. delegation sat late into the night seeking wording for an official communique that could somehow accommodate the divergent positions.

Israel's chief negotiator, Interior Minister Yosef Burg, said the Egyptians want specific references to "contact with the Palestinians" and to "confidence-building measures" in the formal agenda of the negotiations. But Ghali said Egypt is prepared to dispense with an agenda altogether. The main thing, he said, is how the "contact" and the "measures" are actually implemented.

The negotiations reopened yesterday morning at the Mena House Hotel here, after a suspension of 15 months. "New hope has arisen for the success of the talks." Egypt's deputy premier and head of delegation Karmal Hasan 'Ali declared in a brief address. He grounded the "new hope" in "the new American Administration and the recent elections in Israel."

Both 'Ali and Burg pledged goodwill and determination to pursue the talks with energy and assiduity.

The working sessions that followed centered in the main of the issue of Palestinian involvement in the process. Sharon spoke at length of his recent and ongoing measures to reduce the tension on the West Bank, citing the removal of army roadblocks, the extension of university courses in Gaza, and the policy announced earlier this week of separating defence and security affairs from the civilian administration.

"They welcomed these steps--but they want more, of course," said Sharon and Burg later, describing the Egyptian reaction to the new Israeli measures.

Ghali echoed this in the interview. "We asked for additional measures," he said. "And we want to be kept "informed of them."

Ghali conceded that Sharon's advent seemed to signal something of a new approach on Israel's part. "This is the first time we hear clear, open promises...already this is a positive element," he said. If Sharon is indeed seeking out contacts with moderate Palestinian leaders on the West Bank, the Egyptian added, that, too, is a welcome development. "If he can reach them--why not?"

But the Egyptians want--according to the Israeli negotiators--ongoing, institutionalized contact between the autonomy talks and the Palestinians, and Israel cannot accept that.

Fundamentally, a high Israeli source explained, Israel fears that such contact would imply extending quasi-sovereign political statue to Palestinian leaders, for they would become equal partners with the three states--Israel, Egypt and the U.S.--participating in the autonomy talks.

Burg and Sharon offered a string of other reasons why the Egyptian demand is unacceptable to them:

--The "confidence building measures" undertaken by Israel on the West Bank are "unilateral... This is our prerogative because we rule on the West Bank."

--The U.S. is, under Camp David, a full partner in the autonomy talks, but it should not be a full partner in talks with the Palestinians.

--To accept Egypt's approach would be "to invite constant questions and criticism" about Israel's actions on the West Bank and in Gaza.

--Israel "does not need Egyptian spurring" to carry out such measures. Nor does it need "to share the credit" for them.

Burg stressed, though, that Israel is prepared to informally discuss with Egypt its steps and policies in the administered areas, and Ghali for his part told the POST that Egypt is not pressing for formal "consultations" but could make do with informal coordination on an ongoing basis.

"In the past," he said "our negotiations simply haven't paid enough attention to the Palestinians. There must be direct contact with them. We for our part are very flexible about how that contact is to be maintained. It can be individually by each of the parties.

"What is important is that the contact with the Palestinians be related to the negotiations," and that the Palestinians be canvassed on each major decision before it is taken by the three formal negotiating partners.

The effort to hammer out a completed autonomy package was tried--with notable lack of success--for many months. Now with the talks resuming after a long pause, it is time to try "this new approach," Ghali stressed.

Ghali said that "as a first stage" moderate leaders on the West Bank ought to be drawn into this proposed consultative process. But other moderates elsewhere ought not to be ruled out later, he added.

"I believe that Americans favour this," Ghali said. "We feel that this is their position." He rejected as "talmudic" Burg's argument that the Americans, while "full partners" in the autonomy talks, should not be full partners in a dialogue with the Palestinians.

IDF Radio Reports

TA231537 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Report from Cairo by correspondent Gad Becker--recorded]

[Excerpt] Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali again put forward the need to discuss the security arrangements in the autonomy, a longstanding point of dispute. The Israeli reply: We shall discuss this subject with the Jordanian Government and with the Palestinians' representatives when the time comes. The Egyptian side once again raised the issue of Jerusalem--they regard east Jerusalem as occupied territory and as a subject requiring discussion--to which Israel replied: Our stand is known, and it totally rejects Jerusalem's incorporation in the autonomy area. Dr Burg told the Egyptians that Israel's aim is to hold a discussion on the autonomy plan for 5 years and not on any subsequent arrangements. Israel, he said, wants a direct and substantive discussion in order to advance the negotiations. As for the U.S. side, it made do for the time being with voicing remarks of a general nature of the U.S. commitment to the negotiations and to the peace process. In general, this morning's session was an opportunity for the sides to put forward stands and not for negotiations. Meetings of experts and ministers are now underway. They are seeking to formulate more substantive subjects.

No Progress Reported

TA231532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] There has been no progress made in the autonomy talks in Cairo, and the differences of opinion between Israel and Egypt remain. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that the Egyptians asked that Israel strengthen the trust of the Palestinians in the territories vis-a-vis Israel. They were hinting at gestures Israel should make in order to encourage the participation of Palestinians in the negotiations. The head of the Israeli delegation, Dr Burg, replied that this matter was not related to the actual establishment of the autonomy, and that Israel was in fact working to improve the situation of the residents of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon detailed to the participants in the talks his plan for the territories, and explained the separation of civilian from military activity. He also mentioned his order to remove roadblocks and to take steps to better the learning conditions of students in Gaza.

At the same time a dispute arose within the Israeli delegation, originating in anger that Sharon brought with him to Cairo persons not connected with the autonomy talks, such as Brigadier General Si'on.

Progress was made regarding one area of normalization when the Egyptian foreign minister agreed to examine sympathetically Israel's request for landing rights at Santa Katerina.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI GIVES SPEECH AT BUDAPEST DINNER

LD231404 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Excerpt] Budapest, 23 Sep (JANA)--The Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] and the Presidium of the Hungarian People's Republic last night gave a banquet in honor of the brother leader and the delegation accompanying him.

The banquet was attended by Janos Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, members of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo, the commander in chief of the Hungarian Armed Forces and ministers.

During the banquet, toasts were exchanged. The brother leader delivered a speech in reply to the speech delivered by Janos Kadar. He said:

Dear friend Janos Kadar, dear friend Pal Losonczi, dear Hungarian friends. I would like to express my pleasure at being here today among these friends. We feel that we are among people who are friends of our people and I would like to express my gratitude for your worthy speech and would like to stress that we are in agreement on all bilateral and international issues.

The leader continued: We are ready to develop our bilateral relations, without any reservation, in all fields and express satisfaction with the development of our bilateral relations in the field of cooperation and in the development of our friendship.

He said: This meeting will strengthen those relations and will undoubtedly develop cooperation. We value your confirmation that the friendly Hungarian people are standing with our people against the imperialist attack and we have complete trust in that confirmation.

He added: On this occasion I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for the noble support of your people during the imperialist attack on the Gulf of Sidra.

The leader of the revolution stressed that the Arab nation values the unyielding and strategic support of the socialist bloc, including the Hungarian People's Republic, for Arab rights and, specifically, for the return of the Palestinian people to its homes and for the crushing of Zionism.

He said: The Arab nation values this friendship, which ties it to the socialist bloc, and we trust this friendship because of the presence of common historic and strategic goals between us despite the difference in the social beliefs of our countries and our ideological differences. But it is possible now, as you said, to create a solid foundation for cooperation and alliance among peoples of different social systems. One of the most important goals that brings us together is the fight against imperialism in the world, the fight against reaction and racism and work toward creating and establishing a new world free of military and political contradictions that stem from the presence of an imperialist camp that is hostile to progress and science.

The brother leader of the revolution continued: We, in the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, have decided to develop our relations with the socialist bloc because of our faith that the goals which tie us together are permanent, historic and strategic.

He said: We express our gratitude for your continued support for the establishment and work of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. The countries of the Aden alliance, among them my country, have also decided to develop and strengthen their relations with the socialist bloc.

The leader added: In this meeting, we will together contribute to the attempt to solve the complex and critical international problems. My country, through its leadership of the progressive Arab revolution and the progressive African revolution, and its dynamic presence in the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and its being among the countries of the Aden alliance, is confident of its dynamic role with regard to these problems. We are also confident in the role of your country and that of the socialist bloc in this sphere.

The brother leader said: We are convinced, during the time of our meeting, that imperialism has escalated its attacks against peaceful peoples, and that the new U.S. Government is directly leading terrorist military campaigns against peaceful peoples. At the forefront of these campaigns is the U.S. 6th Fleet's campaign against the Gulf of Sidra, the internal waters and the security region of Libya.

The leader stressed that this aggressive, flagrant, direct and unjustifiable act was condemned by all peace-loving and anti-imperialist peoples, and the greatest evidence in support of this was the international conference of solidarity with the Libyan people against U.S. aggression, which included more than 80 states and more than 240 international organizations. That aggression fell directly on Libya, and U.S. imperialism aimed at Libya as a first target; the conference made Libya an international base for resistance against imperialism.

The brother leader pointed out that among these imperialist campaigns was the campaign against the People's Republic of Angola, the continued campaigns against the Lebanese people and the Palestinian camps and groupings, and the continued threats to the peoples of Afghanistan and Chad. The leader stressed that in reality, the United States is responsible for these military campaigns because the racist Pretoria government, the racist Israeli Government and the reactionary governments of Asia are pawns moved by the United States in order to realize its imperialist aims in the world. So are the lackey governments (?propped up) by the United States which threaten the security of the Jamahiriyah, Ethiopian and Democratic Yemen, such as the Numayri government, the As-Sadad government, the Said Barre Government and the Qabus Omani government under the orders of the United States.

The brother leader said in his speech that the Governments of Egypt and Sudan have declared that they will bring back the civil war to the people of Chad who had rid themselves of it after seeking help from Libyan forces to end the 20-year war. Peace prevails and the Chadian people are building their national unity and their economy; but those lackies, under orders from America, have decided to bring the civil war back to Chad.

The leader pointed out that the Chadian Government forces are, at that hour, engaged in fighting on their border confronting attacks from joint Egyptian and Sudanese forces.

The brother leader stressed in his speech that the United States has become a direct threat to peace in the Middle East, in the Mediterranean, in the heart of Europe, in the Indian Ocean and in the Arab Gulf.

He said: My country strongly opposes the barbaric and aggressive U.S. program to manufacture the neutron bomb and deploy medium-range nuclear missiles in the heart of Europe; the policy of the new U.S. Government is responsible for the resumption of the arms race and the destruction of international harmony.

The leader of the revolution said that we, the Arab progressive forces, have no option but to call for the strengthening of the alliance between the progressive Arab forces, the socialist bloc and the international liberation movements to confront this imperialist attack and to safeguard world peace. At the conclusion of his speech, the brother leader said that bilateral relations and complex, critical international problems will take the largest share of our talks in this important meeting.

MOROCCO

OPPOSITION PERSONALITIES ON TRIAL IN RABAT

NC231050 Paris AFP in English 1017 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Rabat, 23 Sep (AFP)--The trial was to resume in Casablanca today of Mustapha Karchawi, editor of the socialist daily AL-MUHARRIR, and five leading members of the Socialist Union (USFP) and Democratic Labour Confederation (CDT).

The resumption of the trial, on charges arising from a bloodily repressed general strike here last July, coincides with the winding up tomorrow in Rabat of the trial of USFP First Secretary Abderrahim Bouabid and four other members of the party's Political Bureau.

The Rabat court case, in which the state is calling for two-year jail sentences, revolves around charges of "disturbing public order" following criticism by USFP leaders of the way a referendum is to be held in the Western Sahara, where the Moroccan Government is battling a local nationalist movement.

While there is no direct link between the trials, they are both indicative of the atmosphere of confrontation which has developed between the authorities and the opposition over the past year, observers said.

A first trial of Mr Karchawi was suspended on August 18 when the Casablanca magistrate's court ruled itself incompetent to hear the case. Mr Karchawi and his co-accused have since been charged with more serious offences, including complicity in arson and organised looting. At the first hearing the defence repeatedly complained of "irregularities" and called for the accused to be released on bail.

AL-MUHARRIR, Morrocco's best-seller, has had its publication license suspended since June, along with the USFP's weekly publication liberation.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI ORDERS SUNA TO BECOME PUBLIC CORPORATION

JN221909 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 22 Sep 81

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Sep (SUNA)--President Numayri has issued a provisional order to the law of SUDAN NEWS AGENCY for the year 1981, decreeing the formation of a public corporation under the name SUDAN NEWS AGENCY. This corporation will have an independent identity and will be under the direct supervision of the president of the republic or anyone he deputizes. The law instituted the formation of a board for the corporation which will undertake all legal dealings in behalf of it. The board will be formed by a presidential decree.

An official source at the Presidency said the decree of the law of SUDAN NEWS AGENCY and the law of the National Corporation for Radio Broadcast and Television are part of a series of actions aiming at reducing the Ministry of Culture and Information according to the recommendations issued by the Central Committee of the Sudanese Socialist Union in its third session.

SOMALIA

PRESIDENT URGES STRUGGLE AGAINST TRIBALISM

FA231022 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 22 Sep 81

[Text] The secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] and president of the Somali Democratic Republic, Challe Mohammad Siad Barre, today met all SRSP functionaries and personnel of the Benadir regional party headquarters at the People's Hall in Mogadishu.

In an important address, Challe Siad explained in detail the function and efforts of the party since its inception, saying that the party has passed through various phases and done a lot for the future of the nation. The president noted that it is imperiative to advance the party's role and necessary for party officials to follow identical policies with the aim of serving and [word indistinct] society. They must carry out their functions with honesty and diligence using our policy of scientific socialism which is in harmony with our country's position.

A good party (?policy) is one that always cares about social improvements and for this reason party officials must have goals that can be emulated. A party must have [word indistinct] links and officials must be able to communicate with each other easily. A party member must harbor no evil thoughts, Challe Siad said.

The secretary general of the SRSP, Challe Mohammad Siad Barre, said that any person who does not follow (?laws) and party policies deserves to be removed from the party. Addressing himself specifically to the functionaries, Challe Mohammad Siad Barre said that they carry a heavy responsibility in leading society's development.

National interest must be put before everything else and one must desist from anything that could endanger society such as tribalism, which is a tool used by colonialists, favoritism, (?selfishness) and injustice. Challe Siad pointed out that tribalism is used to destroy society and thereby retard our progress. There is a need, therefore, to launch a merciless war against those who use it and teach them a lesson. The president pointed out that any social progress is a result of great efforts and solidarity. This, he said, is the basis of achieving our national goals.

The SRSP secretary general said our country has experienced many problems, either from natural causes or from aggressions and provocations from colonialists. He said the Somali people have overcome all these problems with courage and unity. We desire to live in peace, friendship and to cooperate with anyone who does not oppose the territorial integrity of Somalia.

Finally, Challe Siad urged party functionaries to carry out their responsibilities with dedication and sincerity and to intensify their guidance work and organization. He wished them good work.

Present on the occasion were the chairman of the SRSP Bureau of Social Affairs, Challe Yusuf Ali Osman; the chairman of the SRSP Central Committee's Inspection Committee, Challe Yusuf Ibrahim Ali Aburas; and other senior party officials.

CHAD

GOUKOUNI OUEDDEI INTERVIEWED IN PARIS

PM231047 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 19 Sep 81 p 8

[Francois Germain-Robin "exclusive" interview with Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei in Paris, 18 September: "We Can Count on France's Friendly Aid"]

[Text] After the press conference he gave yesterday afternoon during his official visit to France, Chadian National Unity Transition Government President Goukouni Oueddei agreed to answer my questions. I had already had the opportunity to see President Goukouni during the OAU summit in Nairobi last June. At that time he had expressed the immense relief felt by the Chadian people at Giscard d'Estaing's defeat and their certainty that, with the arrival of a leftwing government, there would soon be no more problems between France and Chad. I asked the Chadian president whether the meeting he had with Francois Mitterand Thursday afternoon had confirmed that opinion.

"Absolutely!" the president replied with a broad smile. "President Mitterrand fully understood our problems and we even think he understands them better than some of our neighbors. I saw we had identical views and I am even more convinced that France can help us."

[Question] What forms will this aid take?

[Answer] First, aid to rebuild Ndjamena, our capital, which has been completely destroyed. As a friendly country France is prepared to contribute to this immediately, just as it is prepared to give us humanitarian aid, because so many years of war have produced a great deal of poverty. France will also make a contribution in the sphere of education; our national education minister will come here in a few days' time to discuss this.

[Question] Will there also be military aid?

[Answer] The French Government is also prepared to help us in this sphere. But we do not want French troops, weapons or technicians. We do not want to place France in a difficult position and repeat past mistakes. But the French Government can help us to rebuild our army which at present comprises scattered and disorganized groups, for instance by training Chadian officers in France. It is also prepared to provide logistical aid for the formation of an inter-African force to maintain order. It is to take over from the Libyan troops, and we are prepared to welcome it as soon as possible.

[Question] Did you discuss with President Mitterrand the presence of Libyan soldiers, which some people seem to regard as a problem?

[Answer] Libyan troops are in Chad because we need them and asked them to help us. This is a problem that only concerns the two countries and France has no reason to interfere. Therefore, we did not discuss this question.

[Question] Do you think there will be a French ambassador in Chad again soon?

[Answer] There is no doubt about this: There will be a French ambassador in Ndjamena as soon as the embassy building, which has collapsed, has been repaired.

ZAIRE

PENNE COMMENTS ON FRENCH-ZAIRIAN COOPERATION

AB221704 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 22 Sep 81

[Text] French-Zairian relations have just gathered momentum following a somewhat hesitant start. A senior French envoy and President Francois Mitterrand's personal adviser, Mr Guy Penne, was received for a long talk this morning at Camp Tsatsi [President Mobutu's residence] from where Lumana Kapatsi has sent us the following report:

No field of cooperation between France and Zaire will be neglected. Presidents Mobutu and Francois Mitterrand will meet before the French-African summit conference in Paris. This will offer an opportunity to deepen the discussions held this morning at Camp Tsatsi for a little more than 2 hours between the founding chairman of the MPR and Mr Francois Mitterrand's personal adviser, Mr Guy Penne, who later made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Penne] I believe that the talks lasted for a little more than 2 hours and time passed very quickly. I delivered a message from the president of the French Republic to President Mobutu. The message asked President Mobutu to express what he wants in a message that I will later transmit to President Francois Mitterrand. We discussed problems of bilateral relations between France and Zaire and current major African problems.

I would like to say, first of all, that we are happy to know that President Mobutu will participate in the forthcoming French-African summit and that next year's summit will very probably take place in Kinshasa. France hopes it will. We are pleased to have come to Zaire because we know it is the most important French-speaking African country. President Mobutu received me with great courtesy and I will convey to President Mitterrand my favorable impression of this audience. I think that when the two presidents meet, they will conclude the discussions begun today.

Concerning cooperation between France and Zaire, it is developing in all fields--cultural, medical and so on. No field will be neglected. I think the new French Government will send other advisers here very soon and I am sure that, together, we will be able to do a good job.

[Reporter] Mr Adviser, what is the date for the first meeting between President Mitterrand and the founding chairman of the MPR?

[Penne] During the French-African summit conference, which will take place on 3 and 4 November in Paris, the two heads of state will have an opportunity to hold their first meeting. Subsequent meetings will depend on timetables and circumstances. In any case, I will be at the disposal of the president of the Republic of France--since I am his personal adviser--and of President Mobutu in order to organize a meeting whenever deemed necessary and useful by the two presidents.

[Reporter] Mr Adviser, you rightly said just now that Zaire is the most important French-speaking country after France but we did not have this feeling when the new French administration came to power. We have the feeling that the contacts between Paris and Kinshasa have been timid. What is the real situation? What is the present state of relations between the two countries?

[Penne] Well, as you know, there was first of all the election of the president of the republic. The National Assembly was dissolved and a new one was then elected. A provisional government led by Mr Pierre Mauroy was set up. The prime minister was later reappointed and there were a number of changes in the government. There are major problems at the national level: There are the employment and monetary problems. In any case, as soon as he was elected, President Mitterrand received a message of congratulations and good wishes from President Mobutu and he replied with a message of thanks which I think was quite warm.

But you are right; this was perhaps not enough. You are a Zairian patriot. You are impatient just as I am. If contacts (?have been few) until now, it is perhaps because formal invitations have not been sent. Your feeling is very natural but we are very happy to note that cooperation between France and Zaire can be developed. We think it is deficient in many fields. Let me tell you, as a university man, that there are many problems to be solved and they will be solved. We will neglect nothing [words indistinct].

[Reporter] I would like to ask a last question. There have been some insinuations in the international press. It has been said that there are some problems in relations between President Mitterrand and President Mobutu. Do you share this view?

[Penne] Look here, even when he was not engaged in poliics, the president of the republic of France had a great interest in Africa. When he later began his political life [words indistinct]. He was always interested in Africa. He remains very much attached to Africa. He knew all those who were in power and who are no longer in power; he knows those who are now in power and he knows some people who may later come to power. I wish to say that perhaps Presidents Mobutu and Mitterrand did not know each other. This is natural. President Mitterrand used to see his friend Senghor and President Houphouet-Boigny, with whom he has had a longstanding friendship, but the president of the republic respects and recognizes states and heads of governments. He deals with states on a state-to-state basis and there is no reason why President Mobutu should not be treated as a head of state like all other heads of state. [end recording]

TOGO

KEREKOU INTERVIEWED ON UPCOMING TRIP TO FRANCE

AB231212 Contonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 22 Sep 81

[Excerpts] A dispatch from the Benin news agency says our great comrade in arms, President Mathieu Kerekou, who left Contonou this morning, arrived in Paris this afternoon for a 3-day friendly and working visit during which he will hold talks with the French president, Francois Mitterrand. The head of state, who will go to the Elysee tomorrow as a luncheon guest of his French counterpart, will hold talks the same day with the first secretary general of the socialist party, Lionel Jospin, as well as with the secretary general of the French Communist Party, Georges Marchais.

Before flying to Paris this morning, President Mathieu Kerekou granted an interview to our colleague, David Oguchina, in which he stressed the importance and significance of this visit.

[Begin Kerekou recording] We intend in 2 days to demystify all those who, whether journalists or not, whether informed or not, believe they can speculate on this visit because, in fact, since the launching of the Beninese revolution on 28 October 1972, this is the first time a Beninese head of state has gone to Paris. You will remember, militants of the Beninese revolution, that during their short visit to our country, the People's Republic of Benin, on Thursday, (?27) August 1981, Guy Penne and (?Augusto Debre), both advisers to the French president, delivered to us an invitation from His Excellency Mr Francois Mitterrand, president of the Republic of France, to make an official working visit to France during this month of September. It is therefore in response to this kind invitation that we are leaving Cotonou today, Tuesday, 22 September 1981, for Paris at the head of a large delegation of our revolutionary party and state.

Comrade journalist, if you asked us why are we undertaking this visit only now, we would answer you simply that for a long time the Beninese people have had close links of friendship, solidarity and cooperation with the French people. And since the solemn proclamation of the independence of our country on 1 August 1960, our predecessors have had the opportunity to go to France on state and friendly visits. It should, however, be noted that on each of these visits, the national situation on the political, economic and sociocultural level did not see any renewal of activity in the improvement of living and working conditions for the peoples in our towns and villages. That is why we found it necessary to stress in our policy statement of 30 November 1972 on national reconstruction and a new policy of national independence that henceforth we would rely on our own strength, on our own means and on the creative initiative of the working masses in our towns and villages in our liberation struggle from foreign domination and to give our people the personality and dignity of a free people. In other words, just after the launching of the Benin revolution, the top priority for us as revolutionary, conscientious and enlightened Beninese was never to undertake state and friendly visits that are purely folkloric, that is to say, visits that have no political, economic and sociocultural benefit for our country, for our working masses and for their democratic and popular revolution.

On this basis, if you want to know whether all conditions have now been met to undertake such an official working visit to France and if you also want to know their nature, you must look beyond the ups and downs of the history and evolution of political life in each of our countries. Even if the Beninese-French relations have sometimes been marked by ups and downs, like the toothed edge of a saw where we find, for example, the case of the ignoble armed imperialist aggression of destabilization and colonial reconquest of our country by a gang of mercenaries--vile individuals and criminals--who tried cowardly to violate the sacred land of our ancestors on Sunday 16 January 1977. Today, thanks to better mutual understanding, I must say, that exists between the Beninese Government and the new French Government--an understanding essentially based on tolerance, justice, freedom, dignity, peace and social progress and made possible by the political context resulting from the advent of the socialist government in power--we sincerely think that efforts should be made on both sides to normalize and activate these relations in all fields. So it is not by mere chance that we have not gone to France since 26 October 1972.

Now all the conditions seem to have been met and we are going to France. There is, therefore, no mystery. In view of the new and favorable political situation, our revolutionary party and state have accepted with pleasure and in the name of the Beninese people and their democratic and popular revolution the French president's invitation to pay an official working visit to France.

This first visit, to which we attach particular importance--this is normal because it is the first such visit in 9 years--will, we hope, offer us the happy opportunity to express verbally in the name of our hard-working and militant people, their vanguard party--the Beninese people's revolutionary party--and our revolutionary state our sincere and militant congratulations to His Excellency Francois Mitterrand for his brilliant election as his country's head of state. This visit will also enable us to express to the French people and their socialist government the feelings of great esteem and very sincere friendship of the brave Beninese people who, since 26 October 1972, have been resolutely determined to free themselves at all costs from foreign domination, political oppression, economic exploitation, cultural alienation and the effects of intertribal and interregional contradictions.

In fact, the discussions we will have with the French authorities and particularly with President Francois Mitterrand during our visit to Paris will, we are convinced, help to give a new impetus to the traditional and age-old ties of friendship and solidarity existing between the Beninese and French peoples and to clearly define the new framework in which will henceforth develop our relations of cooperation based on the principles of nonalignment equality, mutual respect for sovereignty, reciprocal advantages and national dignity. Militants of the Beninese revolution, this is the context in which we place our official working visit to France beginning today, Tuesday, 22 September 1981, and the significance we give it in all responsibility and awareness. [end recording]

In an issue devoted to the head of state's visit to Paris a few days before President Kerekou's departure, our colleague, HEBDO magazine, published an exclusive interview in which the head of state talked about the significance of this visit. Here are some excerpts of that interview:

[Begin Kerekou recording] Just after the launching of the revolution, we told the Beninese people that its final objective was to completely recover our dignity and personality as a free people. It should therefore be clear to everyone that we are not going to Paris to ask for money. This was what the authorities of the previous regimes of national irresponsibility had been doing and this was what the people blamed them for and brought about the revolution. There is, therefore, no question of our going to a foreign country to ask for money to pay our (?civil servants). We are going because we have been invited. We must tell you that it was the president of France, His Excellency Francois Mitterrand, who invited us in the name of his people and socialist government and, as far as I know, he did not tell us to come and receive money.

This should be clear to us and to the journalists who may be tempted to wrongly interpret the real significance of our visit to Paris. We are going there because we have been invited. We are not going there to bring back cases of money. The Beninese people should know this once and for all and resolutely start to correctly and diligently execute all the great and permanent tasks of the Beninese revolution, namely: national construction; national production; defense of the fatherland and the revolution; patriotic, ideological and premilitary training at all levels; the elimination of illiteracy in our towns and rural areas; and the practice of mass sports to keep fit and in condition to produce in quantity and quality the material goods and services essential for the improvement of the people's conditions of living and work. [end recording]

ANGOLA

FINANCE MINISTER RETURNS FROM TRIP TO TRIPOLI

AB231047 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 0940 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Luanda, 22 Sep (ANGOP)--The minister of finance, Ismael Martins, returned today (Tuesday) from Tripoli, Libya, where he delivered a personal message from President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to his Libyan counterpart, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

In Libya, Ismael Martins discussed with the authorities ways and means of strengthening cooperation between the two countries. The visit of the minister of finance to Libya is connected with the current situation in the south of the country.

MOZAMBIQUE

FPLM TO PUBLISH PAPER, RESUME RADIO PROGRAM

EA231011 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 22 Sep 81

[Text] On 25 September 1981, the first issue of the armed forces, FPLM [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique], newspaper will be published. The newspaper will be known as O COMBATE. The paper will be issued to celebrate the 17th anniversary of the founding of the FPLM and of the unleashing of the armed struggle for national liberation, which comes within a framework of a political and organizational offensive. Also on 25 September 1981, the armed forces radio program will be reinstated after being interrupted for about a (?year).

It will be recalled that it was announced yesterday that two new newspapers will be published from 25 September 1981, O DIARIO DE MOZAMBIQUE and the weekly DOMINGO.

SOUTH AFRICA

COMMENTARY ON WESTERN CONTACT GROUP ACTIVITIES

LD211806 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 21 Sep 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] If there is to be progress on South-West Africa, the immediate need is for agreement among the Western Contact Group on a settlement formula. Having concluded their present talks with the South African delegation in Switzerland, the Americans will meet in New York on Thursday with the other four members of the group: Britain, France, West Germany and Canada. There is hope for success in the determination of the Reagan administration to find a solution. But positions variously adopted by the five up to now suggest that agreement may not be easy.

In the recent Security Council debate on South Africa's strike into Angola, the three of them who are permanent members of the council each adopted a different attitude. The United States vetoed the resolution condemning South Africa, Britain abstained, and France voted in favor. In West Germany, the foreign minister has in the past received the leader of SWAPO but not the representatives of the internal Democratic Turnhalle Alliance. The Canadians are reportedly no longer enthusiastic about an earlier proposal that they should provide troops for the United Nations supervisory force.

Such particular considerations apart, the West today does not share a common world view. There are those, notably in continental Europe, who believe that the threat of the Soviet Union is exaggerated, and that too much is made of its association with and influence over revolutionary movements like SWAPO. There are others, notably in the United States, who see these movements whether in Central America, the Middle East or Southern Africa as part of an integrated Soviet plan of action to achieve an unchanged ambition of global domination. That is the view which underlies the Reagan administration's approach to South-West Africa. It relaunched the settlement initiative because of the importance it attaches to stability and to containing Soviet influence in southern Africa. Accordingly, it is working for a formula which will ensure, as far as is possible, that independence elections are in practice free and fair, and that whatever their outcome, the West's position in a critical sector of the East-West confrontation will not be damaged.

The meeting of the Contact Group in New York on Thursday is a vital hurdle on the way to independence of South-West Africa. It will also be a test of the common purpose of these major Western countries and of their ability to pull together under American leadership in an increasingly menacing world.

RIGHTWING PARTIES OPPOSE NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE

AB240842 Paris AFP in English 0757 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] Pretoria, 24 Sep (AFP)--The leaders of three South African right-wing parties have jointly warned the government against selling out the whites of South African-adminstered Namibia.

In a joint statement yesterday, in the wake of talks between U.S. and South African officials on Namibia earlier this week in Zurich, the right-wingers said that negotiations with the United Nations on independence for SAW (South-West Africa-Namibia) must be abandoned.

Independence for Namibia was no solution to problems in the former German colony, which is administered by the Pretoria government in defiance of the United Nations. Discussions on Namibia's future should begin only when the terrorists have been driven out of southern Africa, the statement added.

It was signed by Jaap Marais of the Herstigte Nasionale Party, Connie Mulder of the National Conservative Party and Eugene Terreblanche of the Afrikaner Weerstand Beweging, none of which is represented in Parliament.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA SCORES U.S. DECISION ON SPRINGBOKS TOUR

AB211104 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] President Kaunda warned in Lusaka today that unless the United States changes its approach to certain issues, a major catastrophe will hit the world. In an interview with the British news agency REUTER correspondent, Dr Kaunda criticized the Reagan administration for allowing the South African rugby tour of the United States. Dr Kaunda accused the United States of defying African opinion and bending over backwards to accomodate South Africa. He said Zambia was a faithful member of the OAO and would respond to an OAU [words indistinct] for a boycott of sporting events involving the United States. Dr Kaunda also said Zambia has not been informed on latest Western diplomatic efforts on Namibia, including a meeting in Switzerland tomorrow between senior South African and American officials. Dr Kaunda added that Zambia is still waiting for the Reagan administration to say what its southern African policy is going to be. He said it was too early to tell whether the recent South African rugby tour of New Zealand might affect the games in Australia next year.